

Background:

The Council will review the minutes from the May 6, 2016, Council meeting and the May 5, 2016, Committee of the Whole meeting.

Council — Agenda Item 3**Expected Action:**

The Council will review, revise as appropriate, and approve.

**COUNCIL MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
MAY 6, 2016**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Gladys Cortez | Barbara Kaatz, TEA | Meagan Sumbera, A&M CDD |
| Kristen Cox | Ruth Mason | Lora Taylor |
| Mateo Delgado | Scott McAvoy | Donnie Wilson, DADS |
| Mary Faithfull, DRT | Brandon Pharris | April Young, HHSC |
| Stephen Gersuk | Meghan Regis, DARS | |
| Ivy Goldstein, DSHS | Amy Sharp, UT CDS | |

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Mary Durham, Council Chair | Kristine Clark | David Taylor |
| Hunter Adkins | Michael Peace | Rick Tisch |
| Kimberly Blackmon | Dana Perry | John Thomas |

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Beth Stalvey, Executive Director | Danny Fikac | Jessica Ramos |
| Martha Cantu | Ashley Ford | Joshua Ryf |
| Joanna Cordry | Wendy Jones | Koren Vogel |
| Cynthia Ellison | Linda Logan | |

GUESTS PRESENT

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Rebekah Adams | Amy Litzinger | Michelle Schwartz |
| Shiloh Gonzales | Darryl Powell | Shea Selby |

CALL TO ORDER

The Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities convened on Friday, May 6, 2016, in the Joplin Room of the Doubletree Austin Northwest - Arboretum, 8901 Business Park Drive, Austin, TX 78759. Council Vice-Chair Kristen Cox called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM. Cox noted that Council Chair Mary Durham was unable to attend the meeting due to work conflicts.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Council members, staff and guests were introduced.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered to the Council.

3. CONSENT ITEMS

Vice-Chair Cox reviewed consent items including the minutes from the February 5, 2016, Council meeting and February 4, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting and the excused absences of Hunter Adkins, Kimberly Blackmon, Kristine Clark, Mary Durham, Dana Perry, Rick Tisch and John Thomas. David Taylor and Michael Peace also had issues arise during the course of the meetings

that required their absence from the Council meeting. DARS representative Jennifer Kaut and alternate Sara Kendall were unable to attend but Meghan Regis from that agency is attending as a non-voting representative.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the February 4, 2016 Council meeting and February 3, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting as well as the excused absences as noted.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor

SECOND: Gladys Cortez

The motion **passed** without opposition. Mary Faithfull abstained from voting.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

Vice-Chair Cox noted that during the August meetings, Council Chair Mary Durham will share her recent work experience with the National Taskforce on Workforce Development and Employability for People with Disabilities.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Beth Stalvey provided an update on TCDD staff to note that Sonya Hosey has returned to full-time work but elected to step down from the Grants Management Director position. She will continue working as a Grants Specialist with additional responsibilities for quality control and other special projects. Cynthia Ellison has accepted the position of Grants Management Director. In response to expanded public awareness and marketing needs, the Communications division has been given more visibility on the organizational chart and moved out of the Public Policy Division. A Communications Director position has been created and Joshua Ryf has accepted that position. Public Policy Specialist Belinda Carlton is retiring as of May 31, 2016. Vacancies for a Grants Specialist and Public Policy Specialist are posted to accept applications and the selection process will be conducted during the next few months.

Stalvey reported that in addition to the Disability Policy Seminar in Washington, DC, she attended the Texas Statewide Independent Living Conference held in San Antonio at the beginning of April.

The FY 2017 – FY 2021 State Plan is due for submission by August 15, 2016. The Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) has a number of new requirements and formatting for this comprehensive report.

6. FUTURE ACTIVITIES FOR STATE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Project Development Committee Chair Gladys Cortez reported on Committee discussion of several executive summaries for future project funding. She first discussed Youth Leadership Development projects which would reach at least 150 people with developmental disabilities between the ages of 14 and 22 to gain and share information, develop skills and establish personal plans. Priority would be for projects in rural areas, serving a high percentage of people living in poverty, and/or focus on under-represented groups. Funding would be available for up to three projects at up to \$125,000 per year, per project, for up to five years.

MOTION: To approve the Executive Summary for up to three Youth Leadership Development projects for up to \$125,000 per year, per project, for up to five years.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez for the Project Development Committee

The motion **passed** without opposition. (Attachment 1) Meagan Sumbera (A&M CDD) abstained from voting.

Cortez next discussed Outreach and Development projects for up to \$70,000 per year for a maximum of five projects per year. This would allow up to three \$10,000 grants and up to two \$20,000 grants per year for groups to improve access to culturally competent supports and services. Grantees who have successfully completed a \$10,000 project could apply for a \$20,000 project enabling the project work to continue.

MOTION: To approve up to \$70,000 per year for a maximum of five Outreach and Development projects with up to three projects funded at \$10,000 and up to two projects funded at up to \$20,000.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez for the Project Development Committee

The motion **passed** unanimously. (Attachment 2)

Cortez discussed the proposal for Peer Support Specialists for Person-Directed Planning project which would develop and pilot a peer supports training program for individuals who live independently with the use of Medicaid Waiver services so they can lead their own person centered planning process. Health and Human Services Commission staff in the Medicaid/CHIP division are supportive of this project. Funding would be for one four-year project in the amount of up to \$100,000 for the first year and up to \$125,000 for years two through four.

MOTION: To approve up to \$100,000 for the first year and up to \$125,000 for years two through four of a four-year Peer Support Specialists for Person-Directed Planning project.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez for the Project Development Committee

The motion **passed** without opposition. Amy Sharp (UT CDS) abstained from voting. (Attachment 3)

Cortez discussed funding to provide services for not-for-profit community organizations that serve and support people with disabilities and their family members to have materials translated into the languages needed by the people they serve. Funding is recommended to not exceed \$25,000 per year for up to three years and would be approved by the TCDD Executive Director in a manner similar to event stipends.

MOTION: To approve up to \$25,000 per year for up to three years for translation services.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez for the Project Development Committee

The motion **passed** unanimously. (Attachment 4)

Cortez discussed an increase in funding to event stipends and disability related support stipends from \$6,000 per event to \$7,500 per event for a total of up to \$100,000 per year for all stipends.

MOTION: To approve up an increase in Events Stipends and Disability Related Support Stipends to \$7,500 per event and a total of up to \$100,000 per year for all stipends.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez for the Project Development Committee

The motion **passed** without opposition. Amy Sharp (UT CDS) abstained from voting. (Attachment 5)

Cortez discussed withdrawing approval of funding for Support of Full-Participation of Self-Advocates in Workgroups as this funding has never been used. It was clarified that this is not the funding that provides travel support so that public members can participate in workgroups. She noted that the Project Development Committee also reviewed the Future Funding Priorities list and agreed that in addition to the removal of this specified funding, the newly approved projects are recommended to be added as numbers 6-9 on the list, in the order just approved. The remaining projects stay in the same order.

MOTION: To approve revisions to the Future Funding Priorities list by removing Support for Full-Participation of Self-Advocates in Workgroups and placing Youth Leadership Development as number 6, Outreach and Development as number 7, Peer Support Specialists for Person-Directed Planning as number 8, and Translation Services as number 9.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez for the Project Development Committee

The motion **passed** unanimously. (Attachment 6)

7. POSITION STATEMENT REVIEW

Public Policy Committee Chair Lora Taylor reported that the Public Policy Committee reviewed draft revisions to four position statements but elected to take no action on the Right to Privacy position statement until other revisions could be considered. The Committee reviewed the Aging with Developmental Disabilities statement and the recommended revisions as presented in Council materials.

MOTION: To approve proposed revisions to the TCDD Aging with Developmental Disabilities Position Statement.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor for the Public Policy Committee

The motion **passed** unanimously. (Attachment 7)

Taylor reported that the Public Policy Committee discussed the Access to Healthcare position statement and recommended revisions as presented in Council materials with additional edits to the third bullet point. The third bullet point should now read "Make healthcare coverage more affordable" and eliminates other proposed revisions.

MOTION: To approve proposed revisions to the TCDD Access to Healthcare Position Statement.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor for the Public Policy Committee

The motion **passed** without opposition. Ivy Goldstein (DSHS), Donnie Wilson (DADS) and April Young (HHSC) abstained from voting. (Attachment 8)

Taylor reported that the Public Policy Committee discussed the Community Living Position Statement which clarifies statements into plain language and makes reference to Supported Decision Making.

MOTION: To approve proposed revisions to the TCDD Community Living Position Statement.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor for the Public Policy Committee

The motion **passed** without opposition. Ivy Goldstein (DSHS), Donnie Wilson (DADS) and April Young (HHSC) abstained from voting. (Attachment 9)

8. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Project Development Committee Chair Cortez announced that John Thomas will serve as the Vice-Chair of that Committee. She also reported that the Committee received updates on the progress of Partners in Policymaking and Alternatives to Guardianship Training projects. A request for bids to execute the contract for administration of Partners in Policymaking is in development. Because of the amount of the contract, it is being reviewed by the Comptroller's Office to ensure all state procurement policies are met. A contract to administer training on Alternatives to Guardianship and Supported Decision Making is in development with the DD Network partners.

Planning Coordinator Joanna Cordry discussed updated requirements from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) on State Plan Development for two specific objectives that need to be included. The first is to include collaborative efforts with the DD Network Partners and this must include naming the partners. TCDD will meet this requirement by making slight revisions to goals and objectives that highlight the specifics of the collaborative project on Alternatives to Guardianship and Supported Decision Making training. The second is around plans to address disparity and disproportionality that is identified in the State Plan narrative. TCDD will address this by including in the goals and objectives collaborative efforts with community organizations to ensure services and supports are available in Spanish. Cordry added that neither of these additions constitutes a substantial revision to the State Plan Goals and Objectives so there is no need to post again for public comment.

9. PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

Public Policy Committee Chair Taylor reported that the Public Policy Committee had an extensive discussion on employment and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Taylor noted that as part of this act, 15% of vocational rehabilitation funds must be spent on transition services for youth. The Committee received an update on the report to the Legislature from the ombudsman for State Supported Living Centers (SSLCs). Recommended actions include improving staff to client ratios, expanding and strengthening staff training and informing residents of due process. The ombudsman reports also now include personal stories of residents.

The Committee received additional updates on state policies related to parent and student rights for special education services, changes to autism services in Texas, and Health and Human Services transformation.

The Committee will discuss Public Policy Priorities for the 2017 Legislative session during the August meeting. Members who wish to give input on these priorities should send them to public policy staff.

10. GRANTEE PRESENTATION - SAFE

The Council received a presentation from Michelle (Shell) Schwartz, Disability Services Program Director and Rebekah Adams of SAFE (Stop Abuse for Everyone), formerly known as SafePlace. The TCDD grant project was entitled Meaningful Relationships: Bridging the Gap between Dreams and Reality and ended in 2015. The purpose of the program was to create change for community inclusion by demonstrating a replicable and self-directed model for adults with developmental disabilities to form healthy, safe and meaningful relationships with other people, based on shared interests. The project included four locations in the Austin area and one in Seguin. It allowed participants to form relationships based on common interests and participate in inclusive volunteer, social and civic activities. The project provided solutions to barriers to adults with developmental disabilities forming relationships outside service settings. An emphasis was placed on collaboration, creative thinking and peer support. A toolkit from the project is available on the SAFE website.

11. COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING ACTIVITIES REPORT

Communications Director Joshua Ryf provided updates on communications activities. He reviewed data regarding TCDD resources and social media accounts, and highlighted use of the People First Language handout. Ryf discussed information and marketing campaigns and focused on the participation in the #SidebysideTx campaign in March. He also discussed recent events in which TCDD has participated to raise awareness about the agency and provide information about funding opportunities and Council membership. Measurable outcomes for these events include an increase to TCDD email subscribers, identification of individuals who are interested in applying for Council membership and overall increase in the number of people who gained knowledge of TCDD.

12. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Vice-Chair Cox reviewed the new and continuation grant funding that was awarded during the Executive Committee meeting. New grant funding was awarded for Leadership Development and Advocacy Training projects to Paso Del Norte, Family to Family Network and Easter Seals. Continuation grant funding was awarded to Educational Solutions Inspiring Communities (Enabling Technology), Strategic Solutions (Enabling Technology), Imagine Enterprises (Self-Advocates as Speakers), VSA Arts of Texas (Self-Advocates as Speakers), Epilepsy Foundation (Health and Fitness), Region 17 Education Service Center (Family Involvement in Schools, and Texas Advocates (Self-Advocates Grassroots Community Organizing). One event stipend was awarded to Parent to Parent for its annual conference.

The Committee reviewed Conflict of Interest disclosures and no concerns were noted.

13. STATE AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES QUARTERLY ACTIVITIES REPORT

April Young provided updates from Health and Human Services (HHSC) to note that Charles Smith will be the new Commissioner effective June 1, 2016. Self-reported numbers from managed care organizations for Community First Choice options show more than 1,100 individuals enrolled in the program with 8,400 in process of enrollment. Employment First policies have been adopted by HHSC as well as Texas Workforce Commission. Young also provided updates on the HHSC transformation plan.

Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) representative, Donnie Wilson, discussed Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) noting that amended plans to implement HCBS are being reviewed by Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services (CMS). These plans are available on the HHSC website. He also provided updates on DADS transformation activities. He noted that the HHSC transformation website contains notices for recruitment for new or re-formed advisory committees.

Meghan Regis attended the Council meeting from the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) due to the absence of Jennifer Kaut and Sara Kendall. She reported that DARS is awaiting federal regulations in June for WIOA and hopes to release Requests for Proposals on transition services after these are received. Vocational rehabilitation services will transition to Texas Workforce Commission on September 1, 2016 and that transition should not result in a change for consumers.

Texas Education Agency (TEA) representative Barbara Kaatz announced the appointment of the new Commissioner, Mike Morath who has named a new executive team and will be conducting an evaluation of the agency. Any reorganization based on this evaluation is expected in September. Proposed Commissioner of Education rules on video surveillance for special education settings are posted and public comments are being accepted. TCDD submitted joint comments with Disability Rights Texas and the Arc of Texas on “cameras in classrooms” and these are available on the TCDD website.

Meagan Sumbera, Texas A&M Center on Development and Disability, provided updates on new and current projects noting that 21 students just graduated from the PATH program and all have post-graduation plans for employment or additional education. 76 students will be starting the Bridge to Career program. Collaborative efforts with UT Center for Disability Studies (CDS) on training programs for person-centered practices are in process.

Amy Sharp, UTCDS, described their organizations’ strategic planning process which has identified areas of emphasis as person centered practices, transition, and technical assistance. Projects in these areas will be continued and implemented.

Ivy Goldstein, Department of State Health Services, reported that Dr. Manda Hall has been promoted to the medical director of Office of Title V. The division has three primary focus areas: medical homes, transition to adult health care, and community integration and she provided updates on activities in those areas.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

Council members discussed dates and locations of future meetings of August 3-5, 2016 (Horseshoe Bay Resort), November 2-4, 2016, February 1-3, 2017 (tentative) and May 3-5, 2017.

ADJOURN

Council Vice-Chair Cox adjourned the meeting at 12:03 PM.

Beth Stalvey
Secretary to the Council

Date

Attachments

Executive Summary — Youth Leadership Development

Project Goal

For each project: up to 150 people with developmental disabilities between 14 and 21 years old will gain and share information, develop skills, and establish personal plans in an experientially based program.

Relationship to TCDD FY 2017 – FY 2021 State Plan Goals

Goal 3 Increase the access that individuals with developmental disabilities and families of individuals with developmental disabilities have to information, training, and support to advocate for themselves and/or to collaborate with allies to impact public policy, service systems, and community supports.

Objective 3.10. Establish as least one leadership development and advocacy skills training program for youth with disabilities by 9/30/2016.

Funding and Duration

Up to three projects, for up to \$125,000 per project per year, for up to five years.

Background

Today's young people speak from a set of experiences different from adult self-advocates and have a great deal to contribute to the current advocacy environment. Successful leadership training programs build upon the identification and development of participants' strengths as individuals and as a community. The National Consortium on Leadership and Disability for Youth (NCLD/Y) outlines five areas that are important to effective youth leadership training:

Learning includes developing both basic and applied academic competencies and skills.

Research indicates that youth learn best when they are involved in authentic learning environments with opportunities to explore and with real world application.

Thriving is the physical and mental health and overall well-being. Effective youth development activities prepare, support, and assist youth in making healthy choices in all phases of their lives.

Connecting develops positive social attitudes, skills, and behaviors so that youth feel a part of their community. Mentoring is one activity that can contribute to the feeling of connectedness.

Working improves occupational and career skills, attitudes, and behaviors that are needed for success in the workplace. Employment and work-based activities help youth to validate their self-worth, as well as to explore their abilities and interests.

Leading activities and opportunities help youth develop positive civic attitudes, skills, and behaviors. Youth need to contribute to their community, school, and family to develop to their full potential.

TCDD has previously funded youth leadership training projects that addressed most of these areas and were well received by individual participants and their families. Examples of previous TCDD projects include:

- **Texas A&M (TAMU)** supported participants to attend an annual statewide three-day conference. Participants engaged in legislative activities at the Capitol, such as a mock legislative session, a tour of the facilities and meeting with the governor. Participants also

developed personalized plans. Graduates from other youth leadership programs were able to apply to attend this training, and previous graduates of this training served as mentors. TAMU expanded on this project after TCDD funding ended and now collaborates with the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) on the Leadership, Employability, and Advocacy Project (LEAP), which holds two 10 day programs for high school juniors and seniors.

- **Imagine West Texas** collaborated with Disabilities in Action Center for Independent Living in Abilene, using a peer-to-peer training and mentoring model to increase the capacity and impact of participants to engage in leadership, advocacy, community living, continuing education and employment-related activities. Imagine West Texas worked with Disabilities in Action to continue the training.
- **The Region 19 Education Service Center** in El Paso developed an inclusive leadership and advocacy training. They partnered with non-disability community organizations, such as the Hugh O-Brian Youth Leadership Seminar, the El Paso Mayors 100 Teens Program, and the United Way Global Youth Day Organization.

These programs, and others like them, create important platforms of understanding and self-advocacy that will grow to benefit more than the initial participants. For example, they can support youth to use their voice in their schools by leading their own Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) meetings; provide peer support; advocate for their personal wants and needs; and plan for their future. They also may have other positive outcomes, such as giving students the confidence to stand up to bullying.

To grow youth leaders and advocates statewide, training programs must meet the needs of diverse individuals and be offered in multiple locations around the state. In particular, there is a need to develop programs located in rural areas, programs located in areas with a high percentage of people living in poverty, and programs that can recruit and provide culturally appropriate training to youth who are African American, Latino, Native American, or Asian.

Project Description

TCDD will fund up to 3 projects for participants 14-21 years old. Priority will be given to organizations with projects in rural areas, projects that serve a high percentage of people who are living in poverty, and projects that focus on working with underserved populations such as African American, Latino, Native American, or Asian youth. Projects will be encouraged to work to include youth in foster care and/or at-risk youth, if possible.

The first year of the project will be for planning and outreach. Beginning in the second year, each grantee will train 50 individuals per year. Programs must include evidence based training components:

- Learning about:
 - The history and philosophy of the disability rights movement;
 - Self-determination, supported decision making, and alternatives to guardianship.
- Thriving through:
 - Developing self-advocacy skills;

- Knowing how to take control of their health and well-being, including their mental health, as this is important to maintaining independence;
- Understanding strategies to find and access necessary services and supports;
- Connecting through activities to promote interaction between participants and peers.
- Working by:
 - Understanding employment options and exploring career goals;
 - Developing a plan for their future.
- Leading through creating and implementing projects that would benefit others in some way.

Grantees would be required to follow up and report on participants' activities.

Projects will also be expected to support graduates to serve as mentors and to develop long range plans for impact and sustainability. Projects will be required to conduct evaluations that can provide TCDD with, at a minimum, the following information:

- Youth trained;
- Participants who report increasing individual self-advocacy after being trained and the types of activities they engage in;
- Participants who participate in a group advocacy effort, are in leadership positions, or whose activities have benefited others as a result of the training.

Multiple projects will enable TCDD to reach a wider range of people. There is a particular need to establish leadership and advocacy training opportunities in rural areas of the state, areas that experience high poverty, and areas that have a high percentage of people who are underserved. Because it is unlikely that any one organization can provide enough resources to meet the demand, it is imperative that organizations offer this kind of training work together to share expertise, to explore ways to maximize and/or increase their available resources, and to develop a means to continue to support training after TCDD funding has ended. Thus grantees will be required to collaborate with other TCDD youth leadership and advocacy grantees in order to continue receiving grant funds in the second through fifth years.

Other Considerations

To increase the diversity of organizations that receive grants, priority will be given to first time grantees. Organizations with a previous youth leadership and advocacy grant will not be eligible to apply.

The suggested funding amount for these projects would allow the grantee to support participation of youth living in rural areas who may have to travel long distances, have reduced access to transportation, and/or may be living in poverty. Additionally, TCDD staff expect that grant reporting requirements may require additional staff time or a sub-contractor.

Executive Summary — Grants for Outreach and Development

Expected Outcome

At least seven groups that are improving access to culturally competent supports and services and meet specific criteria described in the “Project Description” section will develop their infrastructure and capacity to successfully implement future TCDD grants at higher funding amounts.

Relationship to TCDD State Plan Goals

Information gained through these projects will inform most, if not all, of the objectives in the FY 2017 – FY 2021 State Plan as we work to improve cultural competency across all grants. Projects described by this Executive Summary will specifically meet one or more of the following objectives:

- 1.9. Implement at least three projects that address specific needs of individuals with developmental disabilities who identify with a specific minority culture(s) by 9/30/2021.
- 2.6. Collaborate with at least three other organizations to promote practices that reduce linguistic and cultural barriers that may prevent individuals from receiving services by 9/30/2021.
- 3.13. Each year of the plan, conduct at least one activity to support the participation of people living in rural areas and people who self-identify as having a racial or ethnic minority background in TCDD leadership and advocacy initiatives.

Successful implementation of these projects could also enable TCDD to more successfully address issues that may be specific to different minority communities and to facilitate the inclusion of people who are black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, or Native American in other activities or as Council members.

Funding Amount and Duration

- Up to \$10,000 per project, for one year, for up to three projects. TCDD would offer funding for the \$10,000 projects for four years.
- Up to \$20,000 per project, per year, for up to two projects, for a second year. TCDD would offer funding for the \$20,000 projects for five years.
- No more than five projects would be implemented at any one time.

Background

In the last five years, TCDD funded fourteen \$10,000 grants awarded to groups of people that:

- Strongly identified with a specific racial or ethnic culture, and;
- Were working to promote culturally competent family supports for people with developmental disabilities and families of people with developmental disabilities who also identified with that same cultural group.

The purpose of these grants was to:

- Develop an improved understanding of the different values, cultures, and customs that exist in Texas, and how cultural issues may impact how services should be provided;
- Support people to participate in TCDD leadership and advocacy initiatives;

- Promote practices that reduce linguistic and cultural barriers;
- Support other activities that the applicant organization has determined will help members of their communities who have disabilities to receive support that is more culturally appropriate.

Due to the lower amounts of funding, TCDD grant requirements were reduced in areas of applications, reporting, and organizational infrastructure. However, the number of staff hours needed to manage the administrative components of these grants remained the same. Many of the organizations were grassroots groups that had little or no experience with grants and were not used to managing funds and/or following workplans as is expected by TCDD.

In February of 2016, the TCDD Project Development Committee discussed options to update the requirements of the Outreach and Development grants with the following objectives: to assist grantees to build infrastructure and capacity; provide increased funding to continue successful and projects that might be developing a new model; allow grantees to apply for more than one Outreach and Development grant; and reach out to grantees from underserved areas. The Committee instructed staff to create an Executive Summary for an Outreach and Development RFP in the amount of \$10,000 per project for the first year and to allow for an increase in funding in the second year if the project can show increased capacity and potential for sustainability.

Project Description

The purpose of the offering the \$20,000 Outreach and Development grants are 1) to increase organizational capacity and build sustainability 2) to support people to participate in TCDD leadership and advocacy initiatives 3) to promote practices that reduce cultural barriers.

Groups of individuals meeting the specific criteria below will be eligible to apply for a \$10,000 Outreach and Development Grant. The groups must:

- Consist of people who are black/African American who are working with individuals and/or families who are black/African American and of a similar culture;
- Consist of people who are Hispanic/Latino who are working with individuals and/or families who are Hispanic/Latino and of a similar culture;
- Consist of people who are Asian who are working with individuals and/or families who are Asian and of a similar culture; or
- Consist of people who are Native American who are working with individuals and/or families who are Native American and of a similar culture.
- Consist of people who represent another underserved or unserved racial or ethnic group and who are working with individuals and/or families who are of the same or similar culture.

If the group is applying to work with people who speak a language other than English, the members of the organization who have direct contact with the people being served must also speak that language well enough that interpreters are not required.

Organizations meeting receiving \$10,000 grants will be required to:

- Hold public meetings at least once every 3 months and work with TCDD staff to develop a deeper understanding of the needs and values of their members who have disabilities.
- Allow TCDD staff to attend at least one meeting to gather information directly from participants.
- Pay for one person representing the group to speak to the TCDD Council members at a meeting in Austin if requested.
- Give TCDD ideas for actions to increase the diversity of the people and organizations who work with TCDD.
- Identify strategies to make positive changes that will help people with disabilities and their families to have more control over their lives.
- Engage in trainings, communications, outreach and other activities that promote systems change.

Organizations that have completed an Outreach and Development grant may apply for a second year, with funding up to \$20,000 for the second year, if they:

- Are engaging in systems change efforts or providing training;
- Met the requirements of their first grant as described above;
- Followed the workplan for their first grant;
- Demonstrated the ability to manage the fiscal and reporting requirements of the first grant;
- Show increased capacity and potential for sustainability, and;
- Address Objectives 1.9., 2.6., or 3.13.

Up to two projects per year could be funded for a second year. Previously funded Outreach and Development grantees would be eligible to apply for a second year if they meet the requirements noted above and have not received another grant from TCDD that is larger than \$50,000 per year since their Outreach and Development project was completed.

Organizations receiving funding for an additional year would be expected to continue their existing project with the goals of building capacity of their infrastructure as needed and establishing sustainability for systems change activities. This might include, but would not be limited to:

- Developing policies and procedures;
- Creating job descriptions and starting personnel files for key staff;
- Establishing fiscal control procedures, an accounting system that shows gains/losses, and procedures for purchase/procurement of goods and services;
- Instituting a plan to evaluate the success of their activities;
- Building their capacity to write proposals for grants for future funding;

- Developing an understanding of possible policy implications of their work and make recommendations as appropriate;
- Improving their understanding of communications strategies and engaging in activities that could increase their organization's impact.

Other Considerations

TCDD's history with Outreach and Development projects revealed that all grantees did not seek the type of outcomes related to Objectives 2.7. or 3.13. (See "Relationship to State Plan Goals and Objectives"). Some projects led activities that their community identified as important but that did not focus on supporting people to participate in TCDD leadership and advocacy initiatives or on promoting practices that reduce linguistic and cultural barriers. Therefore, not all funded "Outreach and Development Grants" would meet these objectives, but they would most likely be steps to enable TCDD to develop other projects that would.

CONSUMER STIPENDS PROPOSALS — Executive Director Review

ITEM: 1

Date: 2/25/16

Organization: Texas Parent to Parent City, State: Austin, TX

Federal: \$6,000

Match: \$2,980

Event

Conference: 12th Annual Texas Parent to Parent Conference

Date: June 17–18, 2016

Location: Embassy Suites

City, State: San Marcos, Texas

Previously Funded

Yes: 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005

Comments:

We will provide information to parents, siblings, and youth/young adults with disabilities on advocacy, special education law, Medicaid Waiver Programs, transition to adulthood, self-determination, resources, and health care issues.

Considerations

The conference sponsors propose to provide stipends to cover:

Lodging – 36 individuals (36 @ \$85/individual for 2 nights) = \$ 6,000.00

Total lodging cost is \$6,120, difference in match

Total cost (federal): \$ 6,000.00

Applicant match registration difference, childcare and meals:

Child Care — 36 individuals (12 providers @ \$115/day for 2 days + \$100 Supplies) = \$2,860.00

Lodging — 36 individuals (36 @ \$1.67/individual for 2 nights) = \$120.00

Total cost (match): \$2,980.00

Recommendation: Staff recommends funding. Proposal received 90 days prior to the event.

Approved: ☐ yes ☐ no **Beth Stalvey**

Digitally signed by Beth Stalvey
DN: cn=Beth Stalvey, o, ou, email=beth.stalvey@todd.texas.gov, c=US
Date: 2016.02.26 16:03:26 -0600

Date: 2-26-16

Comments: _____

Executive Summary — Support for Translation of Documents

Project Goal

Not-for-profit community organizations or agencies that serve and support people with developmental disabilities and their families will have access to materials that are translated into languages needed by the people they serve.

Relationship to TCDD State Plan Goals

- 2.6. Partner with at least three other organizations to promote practices that reduce linguistic and cultural barriers that may prevent individuals from receiving services by 9/30/2021.

Funding and Duration

Up to \$25,000 per year for up to three years.

Background

In April of 2013, the TCDD Executive Committee reviewed options for initiating projects in an expedited manner that would allow TCDD to expend available funds as needed but that could also be inactive if funds were not available. One of the preferred options was funding language translation of materials for disability advocacy organizations that serve their local community.

Some of TCDD's Outreach and Development grantees have used TCDD funding to translate various materials that they used in training, outreach, and direct support of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. The materials included information about leadership and advocacy training, the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, available services and supports, and information about the types of supports the organization was able to provide. These grantees confirmed that there is a pressing need for information to be provided in people's native language or in ways consistent with specific culturally-influence learning styles or that are culturally sensitive.

Per the 2009–2013 American Community Survey, approximately 35% of Texans over the age of four speak a language other than English at home. The table on the right is from the November 26, 2015 edition of the Texas Tribune and lists the top 10 languages other than English that are spoken in Texas households.

Project Description

TCDD will pilot a project to translate materials for not-for-profit organizations or agencies that do not currently have a grant from TCDD, a state agency, or a federal agency. The documents would meet the following criteria:

Top 10 Languages Other Than English Spoken in Texas Households

| Language | Number of Speakers |
|------------|--------------------|
| Spanish | 6,983,380 |
| Vietnamese | 193,408 |
| Chinese* | 140,971 |
| Tagalog | 72,248 |
| German | 69,140 |
| French | 60,730 |
| Hindi | 59,602 |
| Urdu | 57,662 |
| Korean | 55,794 |
| Arabic | 55,304 |

*Includes Cantonese, Mandarin and other Chinese languages. Credit: Jolie McCullough

- Support people with developmental disabilities and families to understand and/or access services and supports;
- Inform people with developmental disabilities and their families of their rights; and/or
- Be consistent with a person-centered or family-centered philosophy.

To implement this project, TCDD staff would:

- Develop an application.
- Determine criteria, such as: page limit for each organization, language options, and types of materials that would be eligible for translation.
- Establish an upper limit for the number of pages that TCDD would translate in a current year and amend the current contract with TCDD's language translation services to accommodate this amount.
- Ensure that materials meet the above criteria listed
- Review the intended use, distribution strategies, and impact of the materials on underserved populations with linguistic barriers.
- Make a reasonable effort to ensure that materials do not already exist in that language.
- Maintain a list of materials that have been translated and the date they were translated to make sure materials are not translated into the same language repeatedly.

No one organization could receive translation services that exceed \$6,000 per year, and approval would be dependent on having funds available.

TCDD's Executive Director would approve translation requests as they are received and would report to the Executive Committee.

TCDD Future Funding Activities Priority List As of February 4, 2016

| Number | Organization/Activity | Possible Projects | Funding “Up To” | Council Approved | Expected RFP Post | Expected Start | Expected End |
|--------|---|-------------------|--|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| N/A | Outreach & Development Projects 2.0 — Projects for up to 18 months | 5 per year | \$10,000 per project | 2/5/13 | TBD | FY 14–16 | Variable |
| N/A | Developmental Disability Policy Fellows Program — Award up to 2 two-year — Fellowships in each of Year 1 and 2 — Up to 3 yrs. | 1 | Year 1 up to \$135k Year 3 up to \$135K Year 2 up to \$270K | 8/9/13 | 2/21/2014 3/4/2016 | 8/1/201 9/1/2016 | 7/31/2016 8/31/2018 |
| N/A | Leadership Development and Advocacy Training — Up to 5 years | 4 | \$75,000 per year | 8/8/14 | 9/4/15 | 4/1/16 | 3/31/16 |
| 1 | Partners in Policymaking — Up to 5 years | 1 | Year 1 up to \$150K Year 2 up to \$225K Year 3 up to \$250K Year 4 and 5 up to \$300K | 11/6/15 | TBD | TBD | TBD |
| 2 | Alternatives to Guardianship and Supported Decision Making — DD Network Project — Up to 5 years | 1 | TBD | 2/5/16 | TBD | TBD | TBD |
| 3 | Higher Education Collaborative — Up to 5 years | 1 | TBD | 2/5/16 | 3/25/16 | 11/1/16 | 10/31/21 |
| 4 | Support for Student Research-Related Expenses on Disability-Related Topics — Up to 5 years | 3 | \$25,000 per year per project | 11/7/14 | TBD | TBD | TBD |
| 5 | Partnership with African American Clergy to Support Families — Up to 5 years | 1 | \$75,000/yr. | 5/3/13 | N/A | TBD | TBD |
| N/A | Support for Full Participation of Self-Advocates on Workgroups — Up to 1 year | 1 | \$50,000/yr. | 8/9/13 | N/A | TBD | TBD |

Legend:

Blue text indicates: open RFP or Proposals received are under review at time of printing.

Yellow highlighted text indicates: proposals have been approved, awarded or project is in process of beginning since last Council meeting.

Aging with Developmental Disabilities Position Statement

The Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities supports the position that all people aging with disabilities should be fully included in their communities. Many people with developmental disabilities are supported throughout their lives by family caregivers. The number of older adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities is expected to triple over the next twenty years and the majority of Texans waiting for services have a primary caregiver who is between 31 and 59 years of age.¹ As people with developmental disabilities and their caregivers' age, they have the right to continue to live in the community and exercise control over their own lives. ~~Each~~ All individuals faces challenges caused by the aging process and needs flexible services and supports ~~systems~~ equipped to meet their changing needs.

Therefore, the Council supports the position that Texas has a responsibility to ensure that the state's long-term services and supports system can meet the needs of older Texans with disabilities and their aging family caregivers by:

1. Ensuring that ~~long-term~~ services and supports are available and flexible enough to allow each aging individual to remain in their home and community and exercise control over their own lives.
2. Building expertise among service providers to assist people with developmental disabilities who are aging and their family caregivers in actively planning for their future long-term ~~care~~ services and supports needs.
3. Increasing capacity for respite services for aging caregivers of people with developmental disabilities.
4. Including people representing the disability community on any committee developing or reviewing initiatives and policies related to aging.
5. Assisting people to establish a comprehensive retirement plan to encompass any or all of the following concerns:

| | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> access to health care advanced directives relating to health care counseling <u>services</u> retirement <u>and/or</u> employment options guardianship/alternatives to guardianship housing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> legal issues leisure time activities long-term services and supports plan financial issues money self advocacy training transportation |
|---|---|

Texas leads the nation in promoting independence of people with disabilities and can continue to set the standard as its population ages.

Approved ~~May 9, 2014~~

¹ Texas Biennial Disability Report, Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities, 2010.



Access to Health Care Position Statement

The Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities supports the position that all people, regardless of their disability, age, or ability to pay, should have access to affordable, comprehensive health care. ~~TCDD-The Council~~ supports healthcare initiatives and efforts to increase the access and affordability of health insurance for everyone.

The ~~Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities Council~~ supports the expansion of Medicaid for Texas under the federal Affordable Care Act. ~~The expansion would have covered an additional 1.2 million Texans by 2016. As a result, Texas has the biggest coverage gap in the country, with 766,000 residents ineligible for Medicaid and also ineligible for premium subsidies to offset the cost of private coverage in the exchange. We-The Council~~ supports the position that in any consideration of changes to the healthcare financing and delivery system in the United States, the well-being of the ~~patient individual~~ must be the highest priority. The Council strongly supports the reform measures and principles set forth in this statement as providing individuals consistent access to patient centered, timely, unencumbered, affordable and appropriate health care and universal coverage while maintaining physicians as an integral component to providing the highest quality treatment.

The Council supports the position that as policymakers consider healthcare reforms they should:

- Ensure ~~patients individuals~~ are empowered to control and decide how their own healthcare dollars are spent;
- Ensure unencumbered access to specialty care;
- Make healthcare coverage more affordable; ACA created a subsidy system for low and some middle income families to help purchase of insurance in the state insurance exchanges. The law sets a cap on the amount of insurance premium that individuals and families will to pay for the second cheapest Silver plan based upon that person/family's income in relation to on the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). These subsidies need to extend to individuals with developmental disabilities-IDD and not tied to FPL-not eligible for Medicaid.
- Improve value and increase quality ~~on in~~ our healthcare system;
- Extend both coverage and access ~~for to~~ the uninsured and under-insured;
- Avoid establishing new unsustainable programs;
- Provide comprehensive, culturally and linguistically appropriate behavioral and mental health services and supports;

- Provide services in the context of a patient centered medical home, where the clinician works in partnership with the individual and/or family to ensure that all ~~of the~~ medical and nonmedical needs of the person are met;
- Ensure ~~that~~ children and adults with behavioral and/or mental health concerns have access to screening, diagnosis and treatment that is not subject to arbitrary limits on coverage and integrated into the broader healthcare system;
- Ensure that people with disabilities of all ages and their families have access to health care that responds to their needs over their lifetimes, and provides continuity of care that helps treat and prevent chronic conditions;
- Ensure that people with disabilities and their families receive comprehensive health, rehabilitation, habilitation, and long term support services provided on the basis of individual need, preference, and choice;
- Ensure that people with disabilities and their families have equitable and affordable access to health coverage programs ~~and are~~ not ~~be~~ burdened with disproportionate costs.

The Council is concerned about proposals to block grant Medicaid because people with disabilities are especially vulnerable to reductions in Medicaid spending since they typically require more health services and long term supports. Reforms are necessary to strengthen the current Medicaid program so that it provides accessible, high-quality healthcare services to people with disabilities enrolled in the program; with changes that include, but are not limited to, evidence-based practices and payment structures that attract providers.



Community Living Position Statement

The Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities supports the position that individuals with disabilities should have access to opportunities and the supports needed to make their own decisions, be included in community life, have interdependent relationships, live in homes and communities, and make contributions to their families, communities, the state, and the nation.

Individuals with disabilities must have access to the full range of accommodations necessary to ensure that living in their community is possible. These accommodations may take various forms such as supported decision-making, personal attendant services, medication monitoring, respite, durable medical equipment, employment services, transportation, and/or minor home modifications. Accommodations may be sustained needed for either longer or shorter duration-time or may be of greater or lesser intensity-amount depending on the need of the individual.

Services to children should be provided in their family setting-home. When children cannot remain with their families, they must be cared for using principles, policies and processes akin to those of permanency planning and have access to family-based alternatives that ensure enduring-loving and nurturing relationships.

Adults with disabilities shall have choice and control about where, how, and with whom they live. They must be provided with assistance that may be needed, like supported decision-making, to make these choices and to sustain choices regarding community living. All people with disabilities should have access to the services and supports they need to live in the community. The state of Texas must allocate the requisite resources to support community living for people with disabilities. In addition, the state must rapidly expand the availability of individualized community options, transition all individuals in state institutions to community living, commit to a transition plan to close state supported living centers and transfer any cost savings to quality community programs. Communities must also be cultivated-helped to ensure-local-systems foster accessibility within and across all facets of community life, so that maintaining community placement is a feasible outcome for individuals with disabilities.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
DRAFT MINUTES
MAY 5, 2016**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Kristine Clark | Barbara Kaatz, TEA | David Taylor |
| Gladys Cortez | Ruth Mason | Lora Taylor |
| Kristen Cox | Scott McAvoy | Richard Tisch |
| Mateo Delgado | Michael Peace | April Young, HHSC |
| Stephen Gersuk | Brandon Pharris | Donnie Wilson, DADS |
| Mary Faithfull, DRT | Meghan Regis, DARS | Dan Zhang, A&M CDD |
| Ivy Goldstein, DSHS | Amy Sharp, UT CDS | |

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Mary Durham, Council Chair | Kimberly Blackmon | John Thomas |
| Hunter Adkins | Dana Perry | |

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Beth Stalvey, Executive Director | Cynthia Ellison | Linda Logan |
| Martha Cantu | Danny Fikac | Jessica Ramos |
| Belinda Carlton | Ashley Ford | Fernando Rodriguez |
| Joanna Cordry | Sonya Hosey | Joshua Ryf |
| | Wendy Jones | Koren Vogel |

GUESTS PRESENT

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Brittain Ayres | Brooke Hohfield | Darryl Powell |
| Justin Babineaux, DADS | Cozetta Lamar | Tanashia Stanton |
| Shiloh Gonzalez | Amy Litzinger | Elizabeth Tucker |

CALL TO ORDER

The Committee of the Whole of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities convened on Thursday, May 5, 2016, in the Nelson Room of the Doubletree Austin Northwest - Arboretum, 8901 Business Park Drive, Austin, TX 78759. Council Vice-Chair Kristen Cox called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Council members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered to the Committee.

3. CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMARKS

TCDD Executive Director Beth Stalvey provided an overview of the meetings for the quarter and highlighted some changes from the typical schedule. She noted that member comments and suggestions resulted in the changes and that staff welcome feedback on this schedule as well as other recommendations. Additions to the schedule include an optional and informal "orientation" meeting on Thursday before the Committee of the Whole which allowed members to ask questions

about agenda items or materials. Several members participated and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to ask questions and network with other members and staff. A second informal and optional workshop is scheduled to follow the Committee meetings on Thursday afternoon and will give members the opportunity to coordinate resources with staff members. This quarter Communications Director Joshua Ryf will focus on “member highlights” to collect stories and information that could be used in social media or to recruit other members. Additionally, the Executive Committee is scheduled to reconvene on Thursday at 4:30 PM to allow Committee Chairs an opportunity to debrief and prepare for Friday’s Council meeting. Agenda topics have also shifted to reduce duplication of reports, to allow for more policy discussions during the Committee of the Whole to help prepare members for the upcoming legislative session, and move report items such as the Communications report to the Friday Council meeting.

Executive Director Stalvey reminded members that only three meetings remain before the next Texas legislative session and the Council will focus on key policy items during those meetings. Members will have the opportunity to meet with their legislators during the February 2017 meetings and discuss those policy items.

Stalvey noted that staff are striving to be responsive to member needs and any changes should address those needs. In order to gain a better understanding, staff have created a survey to gain feedback on meeting formats, materials and resources. The survey was distributed and collected after members had the opportunity to complete it.

Council member Rick Tisch, Public Policy Assistant Ashley Ford and Executive Director Stalvey attended the Disability Policy Seminar in Washington, DC in April. They received presentations on federal policy issues and made visits to five Congressional offices. Tisch discussed sessions led by self-advocates on employment that encouraged careers instead of jobs. Stalvey added that they had a productive meeting with staff from Representative Cuellar’s office and there is potential to collaborate on public forums in that South Texas Congressional district.

4. GRANT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

TCDD Grants Management Specialist Wendy Jones provided highlights of the Health and Fitness projects from Any Baby Can, Texas State Independent Living Council (SILC), and the Epilepsy Foundation of Texas. All three grantees are in the final year of their five-year projects and have had outstanding results. Any Baby Can has served over 200 families in the San Antonio area with an 8-month curriculum delivered in four phases. Texas SILC has served 163 individuals from four Centers for Independent Living (CIL) and has included other CIL activities into the project such as incorporating home-grown vegetables (not a part of the project) into healthy nutrition classes that are part of the project. The Epilepsy Foundation of Texas implemented 12-week educational programs on nutrition and fitness and has expanded from individualized programs to groups including schools and has served approximately 1000 individuals.

5. TCDD FINANCIAL REPORT

Executive Director Stalvey provided a presentation on “Understanding the TCDD Budget”. She explained the sequence for TCDD funds as they begin with a federal award from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and move through the grant process. TCDD is allowed two years to assign funds and three years to spend so it is important to assign “older” money to be spent by grantees or contractors. The Council’s responsibility for the budget includes approval of an operating expense budget, development of ideas and projects based on the state plan goals and

objectives, approval of new and continuation grant awards. Council members must understand the budget cycle and ensure that TCDD is on track to spend funds within our federal guidelines.

TCDD Operations Director Martha Cantu discussed the financial reports for this quarter and presented new proposed formats that use plain language and clear graphics. She reviewed the summary of funds and noted that TCDD has approximately \$1.7 million in FY 2016 funds to assign to grantees prior to September 30, 2017 and that these funds must be spent by September 30, 2018.

Cantu also reviewed the FY 2016 Operating Expense budget and explained that funds not needed in professional services, out-of-state travel, and other expenses were moved to salaries and benefits to accommodate changes in staffing. This move does not change the bottom line of the FY 2016 Operating Expense budget.

6. POLICY PRESENTATION: CHANGING WORLD OF TEXAS MEDICAID

TCDD Public Policy Director Jessica Ramos and Elizabeth Tucker, Executive Director of EveryChild, Inc. provided a presentation on the Texas Medicaid STAR Kids program. STAR Kids is the managed care program for children receiving SSI, Medicaid Waiver services, or participating in Medicaid buy-in and will take effect on November 1, 2016. Approximately 180,000 children and youth will be going into this program. Ramos and Tucker reviewed the timeline for STAR Kids implementation and noted that enrollment will begin in August 2016. The managed care organization is determined by the geographic region of the child's residence and key elements of the program include comprehensive screening and assessments, service coordination and transition planning. Tucker and Ramos also discussed advocacy recommendations for impact to the Medically Dependent Children's Program.

8. COUNCIL CHALLENGE

Council members participated in an education and training activity in the form of a *Jeopardy* style challenge that covered the topics of Texas Medicaid, TCDD grant projects, TCDD participation in local events, recent TCDD social media reports, transition services, and general TCDD public policy issues.

ADJOURN

Council Vice - Chair Cox adjourned the Committee of the Whole at 1:30 PM.

Beth Stalvey

Date

Secretary to the Council